

(19) World Intellectual Property
Organization
International Bureau



(43) International Publication Date
1 April 2004 (01.04.2004)

PCT

(10) International Publication Number
WO 2004/026735 A3

(51) International Patent Classification⁷: **B65G 17/32**,
17/46, B65B 3/00, 31/08, 55/02, A61J 1/00

(21) International Application Number:
PCT/EP2003/010349

(22) International Filing Date:
15 September 2003 (15.09.2003)

(25) Filing Language: English

(26) Publication Language: English

(30) Priority Data:
0221510.1 17 September 2002 (17.09.2002) GB
0221511.9 17 September 2002 (17.09.2002) GB

(71) Applicant (for all designated States except US): **GLAXOSMITHKLINE BIOLOGICALS S.A.** [BE/BE]; rue de l'Institut 89, B-1330 Rixensart (BE).

(72) Inventors; and

(75) Inventors/Applicants (for US only): **THILLY, Jacques**

[BE/BE]; GlaxoSmithKline Biologicals s.a., rue de l'Institut 89, B-1330 Rixensart (BE). **VANDECASSERIE, Christian** [BE/BE]; GlaxoSmithKline Biologicals s.a., rue de l'Institut 89, B-1330 Rixensart (BE).

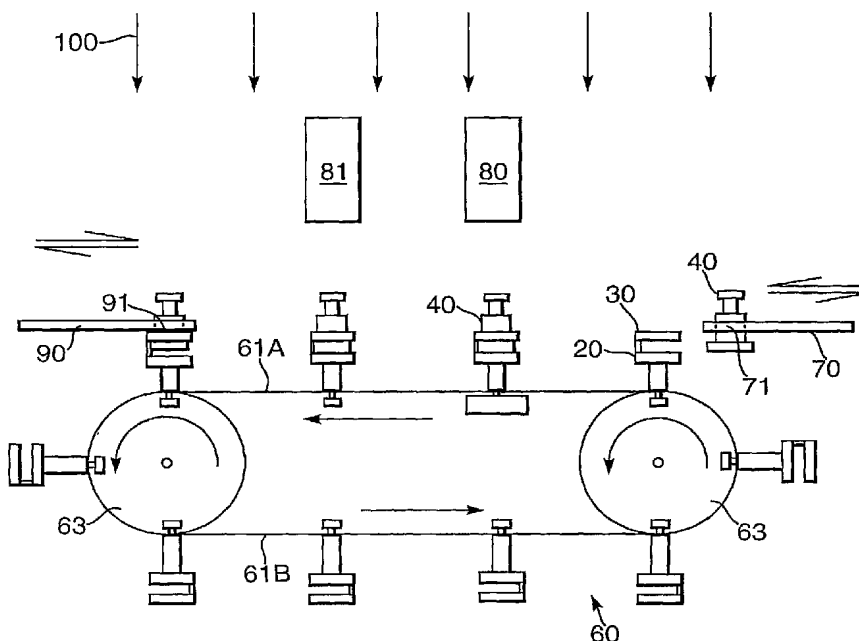
(74) Agent: **WALKER, Ralph, Francis**; GlaxoSmithKline, Corporate Intellectual Property (CN925.1), 980 Great West Road, Brentford, Middlesex TW8 9GS (GB).

(81) Designated States (*national*): AE, AG, AL, AM, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BY, BZ, CA, CH, CN, CO, CR, CU, CZ, DE, DK, DM, DZ, EC, EE, EG, ES, FI, GB, GD, GE, GH, GM, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IS, JP, KE, KG, KP, KR, KZ, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, MA, MD, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, MZ, NI, NO, NZ, OM, PG, PH, PL, PT, RO, RU, SC, SD, SE, SG, SK, SL, SY, TJ, TM, TN, TR, TT, TZ, UA, UG, US, UZ, VC, VN, YU, ZA, ZM, ZW.

(84) Designated States (*regional*): ARIPO patent (GH, GM, KE, LS, MW, MZ, SD, SL, SZ, TZ, UG, ZM, ZW), Eurasian patent (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM), European patent (AT, BE, BG, CH, CY, CZ, DE, DK, EE, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, HU, IE, IT, LU, MC, NL, PT, RO,

[Continued on next page]

(54) Title: ARTICLE HOLDING MEANS AND CONVEYOR SYSTEM



(57) Abstract: Holding means (10) for holding an article (40) onto a conveyor system, particularly for holding pharmaceutical vials onto a conveyor system (60) for performing a filling and sealing operation thereon. The holding means bears downwardly on the article. A conveyor system incorporating the holding means is also provided. In a further aspect an aerodynamically shrouded processing station (80, 81) for use with the conveyor is provided which minimises disruption of a downward laminar flow of purified air (100).

WO 2004/026735 A3



SE, SI, SK, TR), OAPI patent (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, GQ, GW, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG).

(88) Date of publication of the international search report:
4 August 2005

Published:

— with international search report

For two-letter codes and other abbreviations, refer to the "Guidance Notes on Codes and Abbreviations" appearing at the beginning of each regular issue of the PCT Gazette.